AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A device for managing metadata~~,~~ comprising:

a disc drive unit that picks up and outputs audio contents and metadata recorded on a disc,

wherein priorities are assigned to attributes of ~~key~~ metadata of the audio contents according to characteristics of the audio ~~content~~contents, the metadata for a specific audio content are read to extract ~~the~~ attributes ~~thereof~~of the metadata for the specific audio content, and the priorities for the read metadata are then set according to the corresponding assigned priorities.

2. (currently amended): The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the read metadata are displayed according to the set priorities for the attributes of the metadata.

3. (currently amended): The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device further comprises:

~~a disc drive unit that picks up and outputs the audio contents and metadata recorded on a disc;~~

a control unit that controls the operations of playing back the audio content read by the disc drive unit according to the selection of a user and ~~providing~~ that provides the user with the metadata for the audio content being played;

a metadata determination unit that receives the metadata for the selected audio content from the control unit to extract the attributes of the metadata and that determines the priorities for the metadata according to the assigned priorities; and

a display unit that displays a predetermined application program for playing back the audio content under control of the control unit and ~~also~~ that displays predetermined metadata determined by the metadata determination unit through the application program.

4. (currently amended): The device as claimed in claim 3, further comprising:

a decoder that decodes the audio content read by the disc drive unit and that outputs the decoded audio content in the form of an original audio signal; and

an input unit that generates a predetermined selection signal according to the user's selection and that outputs the generated signal to the control unit.

5. (currently amended): The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the priorities for the attributes of the metadata of the specific audio content are ~~defined~~ set according to the corresponding assigned attributes of metadata, a predetermined matching table is created which contains a metadata ~~lists~~ list ~~corresponding~~ associating priorities to the respective attributes.

6. (currently amended): A method of managing metadata, comprising the steps of:

assigning priorities to attributes of ~~key~~ metadata of audio contents according to characteristics of the audio contents;

reading the metadata for a specific audio content;

extracting the attributes of ~~respective metadata from~~ the read metadata;

classifying the extracted metadata attributes according to ~~the~~ corresponding assigned priorities and setting ~~their priorities~~the priority of the extracted metadata attributes according to the corresponding assigned priorities; and

displaying the metadata for the specific audio content according to the set priorities.

7. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the ~~assigned~~ priorities of the attributes of the metadata ~~correspond to attributes of~~are assigned based on the genre of the audio ~~content~~contents.

8. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the step of ~~defining~~ classifying the priorities for the extracted metadata attributes according to the corresponding assigned priorities of attributes of the metadata comprises the step of creating a predetermined matching table that contains a metadata ~~lists~~ list ~~corresponding~~ associating priorities to the respective attributes, and

wherein the step of setting the priorities for the ~~read~~ extracted metadata comprises setting the priority of the extracted metadata attributes ~~the step of using~~ based on the created matching table.

9. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the step of displaying the metadata for the specific audio content comprises ~~the step of~~ displaying a part of the metadata according to the set priorities.

10. (currently amended): A method of managing metadata, comprising the steps of:

selecting meta data of an audio content to be displayed ~~depending upon an audio content~~;

reading the selected meta data; and

displaying the read meta data according to priorities of attributes of the read meta data, wherein the priorities of the attributes are based on characteristics of the audio content.

11. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the meta data are displayed when the ~~relevant~~ audio content is selected.

12. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the step of reading the meta data comprises the steps of:

reading meta data of the audio content; and

classifying the meta data of the audio content to be displayed according to the priorities of the attributes of the read out meta data.

13. (new): The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the attributes of the metadata comprise at least one of a singer, an album title, a composer, a songwriter, a player, a conductor, and an arranger.

14. (new): The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the priorities of the attributes of the metadata of the specific audio contents are automatically assigned according to the corresponding priorities of the attributes of the metadata of the audio contents set according to the characteristics of the audio contents.

15. (new): The device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the read metadata are displayed according to the set priorities for the attributes of the read metadata, and

wherein the attributes of the read metadata comprise at least one of a singer, an album title, a composer, a songwriter, a player, a conductor, and an arranger.